

**From:** DPA EIS Helpdesk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 03, 2002 7:24 AM  
**To:** ALL DPA Statewide Staff; ALL DPA State Associates; DFYS Eligibility Staff  
**Subject:** Progressive Penalties

Broadcast to All DPA Staff  
From  
System Operations and the Policy and Program Development Team

Progressive Penalties

Effective October 1, 2002, EIS changes will go into production to implement the 75% and 100% penalties for Temporary Assistance. The changes to allow the 75% penalty reduction will be available for the benefit month of November; the changes to allow a 100% penalty will be available for the benefit month of March 2003.

A new field, Penalty Percent, has been added to the GRIN screen. During the first four months a penalty is in effect this field will be hard-coded at 40%. Beginning in the fifth month the penalty is in effect, the field will be open to allow the eligibility worker to enter a 75% penalty. Beginning in the ninth month the Penalty Percent field will also allow entry of a 100% penalty.

Imposition of the higher penalty amounts is not automatic. Before a penalty can be increased to 75% or 100%, a home visit must be attempted and a written finding must be made that, considering the results of the home visit and the availability of other services in the community that are appropriate to the family's needs, the health, safety, and well-being of the children would not be significantly jeopardized by imposition of the higher penalty amounts.

A policy memo regarding the 75% and 100% penalties will be distributed soon. This memo will include guidance on the home visits and findings that must be completed before the higher penalties are imposed.

If you have any policy questions, please contact any member of the Policy and Program Development Team at 465-3347 or email [dpapolicy@health.state.ak.us](mailto:dpapolicy@health.state.ak.us). For system-related questions please contact the EIS Help Desk at [EISHelp@health.state.ak.us](mailto:EISHelp@health.state.ak.us).